

MARINE Lance Cpl. Daniel Smith "Spontaneous romantic episode"

WORLD / A27

Obama to tell US credit card titans he'll push for removal of unfair fees

NEWS / A2

ERC approves Meralco rate hike in May

NEWS / A4

Mar Roxas chopper makes forced landing in Arayat, Pampanga

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Friday, April 24, 2009 ★ Vol. 24 / No. 135 website: www.inquirer.net

CA acquittal angers some, pleases others

By Inquirer Staff

"WHAT A SHAME," SEN. JAMBY MADrigal said upon hearing the Court of Appeals' verdict acquitting American serviceman Daniel Smith of raping Nicole.

Her lament echoed a feeling of letdown and anger for some senators and congressmen.

But for Nicole's mother, the case had been over with when her daughter issued a statement last month expressing doubts on her own testimony that she

CA ACQUITTAL A14

Smith not guilty of rape

All-women court: 'Twas 'a romantic episode'

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

IT WASN'T RAPE, BUT A spontaneous, unplanned romantic episode stirred by alcoholic drinks.

This was the ruling of an all-female division of the Court of Appeals acquitting Lance Cpl. Daniel Smith of raping a Filipina code-named Nicole on Nov. 1, 2005 at the Subic Bay Freeport Zone.

In overturning the conviction handed down by the Makati Regional Trial Court in December 2006, the Court of Appeals Special Eleventh Division ordered the immediate release of the American serviceman who has been under the custody of the US Embassy.

The division was composed of Associate Justices Remedios Fernando (chair), Myrna Dimaranan-Vidal and Monina Arevalo-Zenarosa, who penned the decision.

The court disregarded Nicole's March 28, 2009, affidavit that was interpreted as a recantation of her original claim that she was raped by Smith with the help of his fellow Marines S/Sgt. Chad Brian Carpentier, L/Cpl. Dominic Duplantis and L/Cpl. Keith Silkwood.

The trial court had acquitted the group except for Smith, now 24, who was sentenced to life imprisonment.

"Ultimately, it must be pointed out that in resolving the case, we disregard the alleged recantation of Nicole submitted on March 8, 2009. Nor did we open the sealed draft decision penned by retired Justice Agustin S. Dizon which was attached to the records," the appellate court said in its 71-page decision.

The court said it acquitted Smith based on a "careful and judicious perusal of the evidence on record," which

SMITH A10



BOTHERED, BEDEVILED Protests continue to mount against retired Maj. Gen. Jovito Palparan taking a seat in the House of Representatives. On Thursday, members of human rights groups, including Edita Burgos (right), picket the House to denounce Palparan as the incoming representative of the party-list Bantay.

Poll chair no stranger to Palparan

By Kristine L. Alave

THE MAN WHO SAID ARMY MAJ. Gen. Jovito Palparan should be further investigated for his role in the wave of killings of activists will proclaim him as a member of the House of Representatives.

Commission on Elections Chair Jose Melo, who headed the independent commission convened by President Macapagal-Arroyo in 2006 to investigate media and activist killings, is set to proclaim Palparan as party-list representative of Bantay.

Palparan would have a seat in the House because the Supreme Court increased the number of party-list seats in the chamber to 55. Party-list groups currently occupy 22 seats.

Melo met with Palparan in 2006, when he summoned the military offi

POLL CHAIR A6

One more Arroyo at the House

By Leila B. Salaverria

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IS becoming more of a family affair for the Arroyos.

The number of President Macapagal-Arroyo's kin in the chamber is rising to four with the impending entry of Ms. Lourdes Arroyo, younger sister of First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo, as a party-list representative.

The other Arroyos in the House are the President's sons, Pampanga Rep. Juan Miguel Arroyo and Camarines Sur Rep. Diosdado Arroyo, and her brother-in-law, Negros Occidental Rep. Ignacio Arroyo.

Ms. Lourdes's party, Ang Kasangga, was one of the groups that the Supreme Court said should be given new or additional seats when it increased the number of party-list seats in the House to 55. There are currently 22 party-list representatives in the chamber.

ONE MORE A7



BALUT VENDORS Rep. Ma. Lourdes Arroyo, the First Gentleman's younger sister, says that as Kasangga party-list representative, she'll represent microentrepreneurs like balut vendors.

Pro-Cha-cha lawmaker gets ₱1.7-B pork

By Joey A. Gabieta
Inquirer Visayas
and Leila B. Salaverria
in Manila

IT PAYS TO BE CLOSE TO MALAcañang and a proponent of Charter change through a constituent assembly.

The office of Leyte Rep. Ferdinand Martin Romualdez (1st district) reported that he had put up various projects and programs worth more than ₱1.7 billion since he assumed office in 2007.

Romualdez was able to get the funds for his projects because of his "closeness" to President Macapagal-Arroyo and due to his lobbying for the funding.

PRO-CHA-CHA A6

Taliban control district 100 km from Pakistan capital; US alarmed



TALIBAN ON A ROLL Armed Pakistani Taliban gather at a hideout in the restive Orakzai tribal district of Orakzai on April 22. The US is worried about the many concessions the Pakistani government appears to be giving to the Taliban just to keep the peace with the insurgents. AP

ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN—Pushing deeper into Pakistan, Taliban militants have established effective control of a strategically important district just 100 kilometers from the capital, Islamabad, officials and residents said Wednesday.

The fall of the district, Buner, did not mean that the Taliban could imminently threaten Islamabad. But it was another indication of the strength of the insurgency and raised new alarm about the government's ability to resist a Taliban advance toward the heart of Pakistan.

Buner, home to about 1 million people, is a gateway to a major city, Mardan, the second-largest in the North West Frontier Province, after Peshawar. "They take over Buner, then they roll into Mardan, and

TALIBAN A7

₱500,000 for info on last hostage

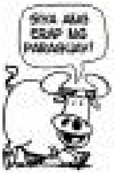
Jocelyn Uy and Michael Lim Ubac
in Manila
Julie S. Alipala,
Inquirer Mindanao

THE GOVERNMENT YESTERday dangled a ₱500,000 cash reward to villagers who could point to authorities the location of Italian hostage Eugenio Vagni following intelligence reports that his Abu Sayyaf captors had turned him over to another armed group.

Officials squelched reports that the 62-year-old humanitarian worker had been abandoned by his kidnappers in the Jolo forest.

Sen. Richard Gordon said he was last in contact with kidnap leader Albader Parad on Wednesday and that Parad told him, referring to Vagni: "God will take care of him, whatever happens."

₱500,000 FOR INFO A6



Paraguay leader can give Erap a run for his money

ASUNCION, PARAGUAY—A THIRD woman came forward Wednesday claiming Paraguayan President Fernando Lugo, a former bishop, is the father of her child—this one a 16-month-old boy she named after late Pope John Paul II.

The growing number of paternity

PARAGUAY A12

Media critics score ABS-CBN coverage

By Alcuin Papa

WHEN REPORTING ABOUT A "Kapamilya" caught in a personal tragedy and a legal fix, how did ABS-CBN fare in the eyes of media industry critics?

For Vergel Santos, veteran journalist and chair of the Center for Media Freedom and Responsibility (CMFR), the broadcast giant showed "a fraternal bias" for its top news anchor Ted Failon in its coverage of his wife's violent death and the ensuing police investigation.

ABS-CBN seemed to have adopted a policy of questioning everything that the police said, according to CMFR Executive Director Melinda Quintos de Jesus.

MEDIA A6

Second FrontPage

Yet another Meralco rate hike

But refund, lower charges will offset increase, says power distributor

THE MANILA ELECTRIC CO. (MERALCO) WILL INCREASE its distribution rate next month to an average P1.227 per kilowatt hour following the approval yesterday by the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) of the performance-based rate-setting (PBR) methodology for determining the electricity rates that the utility can charge.

ERC seeks feedback on prepaid power

Senate OKs changes to power reform act





Kirin to hike San Miguel stake to 48.3%

By Doris C. Dumlao

Selling stake in SMC

Not all preneed firms in trouble, say 2 companies

Sales have been weak

Doris C. Dumlao

BSP, Palace buck IMF no-growth forecast

Goods and services

Delayed impact

Negated by data





Mar's chopper makes emergency landing in field

By Michael Lim Ubac

[illegible]

Lozada finds ally in mayor

[illegible]

RP films make history at Cannes: 4 are in

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

Masterfully directed

Familiarity



'GUERRILLA DAUGHTER' REMEMBERS

CHR welcomes new commish

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Failon opens house to NBI probers minus the media



IN THE THICK OF THINGS

No to 3rd autopsy



FAILON: No media, please.

Just doing job

Media critics score ABS-CBN coverage

Suicide or foul play?

Test for media

Overacting cops

One more Arroyo at the House

What Went Before

Gov't-funded

Balut vendors

Join majority

Charter change

Tax exemption for vendors

Palace fronts

Orientation



ALREADY THREE'S A CROWD Representatives Mikey, Dato, Ignacio, all surnamed Arroyo.

Taliban control district ...

No resistance

Poll chair no stranger to Palparan



MELO

He got votes

Butcher

Just doing his job

CHR chair dismayed

3 stars plus pat on back

Why accredited?

To reconcile figures

Pro-Cha-cha solon gets ₱1.7-B pork

'Unfair'

Close to President

Villafuerte resolution

Settle mode first

Impossible dream

No conflict

Stop debates

₱500,000 for info on last hostage

UK lauds RP rights stand at Asean meet

[illegible]

Cynthia D. Balana

Probe of Pinay's suspicious death in Qatar urged

By Jerome Aning

[illegible]

RP seeks end to racism vs workers

By Cynthia D. Balana

[illegible]

Gov't never supported Nicole from Day 1, says Nicole lawyer

Court adopted defense position

Discouraging precedent



"DECEPTIVE POSTURING" is what the court ruling says of "Nicole" who portrayed herself as "demure provinciana lass going on a first-time vacation in Subic..."



OVERTURNED Judge Benjamin Pozon of the Makati RTC hands down a guilty verdict on Smith (extreme right) in December 2006 while acquitting three other US soldiers (from left), Chad Carpentier, Keith Silkwood and Dominic Duplantis.

WHAT WENT BEFORE

Key events

Smith not guilty of rape

Shattering reality

No evidence to show force

Witnesses' testimony observed

Deceptive posturing

CA acquittal angers some, pleases others

Getting on with her life

Exhibit A gone

Vindication for Smith

Stop using coal, eco group urges gov't

Doctor's cancer journey in book

Amorous Paraguay leader now butt of jokes





He's got heart, not condoms

Paraguay leader can give Erap a run for his money

Sweet words

DNA tests

Church denies cover-up

Macho society

Rare dispensation


PASASALAMAT
RAFFLE PROMO
1ST PRELIMINARY DRAW WINNERS
A Total of
₱3 Million worth of Cash&Prizes
to be given away
Just buy QS logo certified genuine parts!
CUSTOMER / VEHICLE OWNER CATEGORY
Prize: P15,000 each
Alfonso Boy Chua Jr.
Lazaro Arriola
Gilbert Felix
Olo Stop Car Maintenance
Arey Luterte
AUTO SUPPLY / SERVICE CENTER CATEGORY
Prize: P10,000 each
Triple A Tractor Parts
Izumi Diesel Center Inc.
BBW Sales International
Youngboss Parts Center
Triple A Tractor Parts
SALESMAN / AUTO MECHANIC CATEGORY
Prize: P5,000 each
Allan Chua
Marlon Fernandez
Rich Ong
Edgar Cereno
Rene Boy Luterte
BSB JUNROSE AUTOPARTS CORP.
Golden Scenic Solutions Inc.
JRS EXPRESS
Hurry and join now.
You can be the next lucky winner!
Promo period: January 2, 2009 - June 30, 2009
Next Draw Date May 9, 2009 & Grand Draw July 11, 2009
See flyers for Details
BSB JUNROSE AUTOPARTS RECOGNIZED AS OUTSTANDING OVERSEAS DISTRIBUTOR
NOK
CORTECO
555
NOK CORTECO
Distinguishing genuine NOK products.
NEW PLASTIC PACKAGING ADDED FOR YOUR PROTECTION
GENUINE
FAKE NOK PACKAGINGS!
SUN
Cheap imitation leads to expensive damage to your engine!
Distinguishing genuine SUN timing belts.
SUN TIMING BELT
FAKE

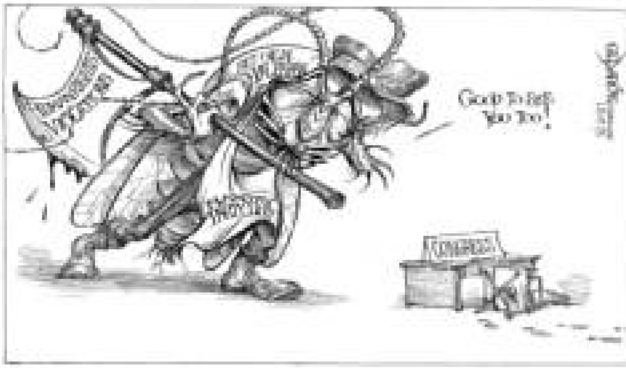
INQUIRER

OPINION

Political earthquake

EDITORIAL

[illegible]



We need less, not more, congressmen

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

[illegible]

Cha-cha: The scheming behind the frenzy

PASSION FOR REASON

Raul C. Pangalangan

[illegible]

Court ruling expands party-list system

ANALYSIS



Amando Doronila

Leaders in search

PINOY KASI



Michael L. Tan

Community activism

Paying for our sins

AT LARGE



Rina Jimenez-David

The 'biggest' US president

LOOKING BACK



Ambeth R. Ocampo

Evolving

LETTERS

Put Earth Day spirit in Philippine context

Among Ed didn't ask for LP endorsement

MILF has no legal personality to negotiate a MOA-AD

Widower seeking GSIS' help given the runaround

BIR lenient with our wealthy health professionals?

History to catch up with GMA and her family

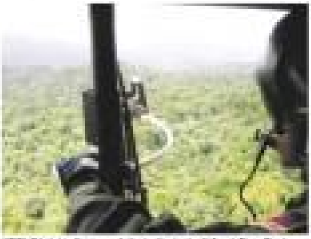
Across the NATION

42 in crash search team stranded

Men who pulled bodies out of ill-fated plane need rescue themselves

TUGUEGARAO CITY—FORTY-TWO MEMBERS of the team that retrieved the seven bodies from the ill-fated ChemTrad plane in Mt. Alau Dipon in Sitio Bayang in Baggao, Cagayan, remained stranded on Thursday because of floods from swollen rivers in the area.

[illegible]



[illegible]

New flight rules eyed in Baguio after chopper crash

[illegible]

Aftermath

[illegible]

No commercial flights

[illegible]



DYING TRADE

[illegible]

DENR stands by report on coal pollution

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
Inquirer Visayas

[illegible]



[illegible]

SC: Pawnshops not exempt from document stamp taxes

[illegible]

'Frank' victims get gov't homes year after storm

> 'Finally, we will have peace of mind...'



Prettiest milkfish oozes with 'sex appeal'

HOMETOWN *Snapshots*

Cigarette firm runs out of luck in new SC ruling

> 'Having pursued one theory and lost... petitioner may no longer pursue another inconsistent theory without trifling with court processes...'

‘Chiz’ says Bicol earns, but suffers neglect



A WAKEBOARD enthusiast ... at the CamSur Watersports Complex in Pili, Camarines Sur, a project of Gov. LRay Villafuerte ... from tourism.



ESCUDERO

LEGAZPI CITY—THE tourism industry of Bicol earned P781 million in 2008 but hardly any new infrastructure has been added by the government in the region, said Sen. Francis "Chiz" Escudero.

Camarines Sur example

Tourism boom

NEWSBRIEFS

■ BAGUIO CITY

Grenade attack kills 2

■ LEGAZPI CITY

New equipment for NDCC

■ BATANGAS CITY

Belgian dies in mishap

■ DAVAO CITY

Brit school expanding

■ EVENTS

Fernandez, 93

Murder witness killed, body found in river

Negros execs vow no letup vs GMOs



Instant noodles cheap, healthy, DepEd insists

By Philip C. Tubeza

THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DepEd) yesterday defended its feeding program from allegations that the noodles it distributed to school children were overpriced and did not contain enough nutrients.

[illegible]

Good for 2 servings

[illegible]

Most of the beneficiaries are residents of poor island municipalities in the Visayas and Mindanao.

[illegible]

38% more this year

[illegible]

Major strategy

[illegible]

Grumbling stomachs

[illegible]

Students learn to control anger at QC school

WITH THE RECENT SPATE OF SCHOOL shootings abroad, an international school in Quezon City is undertaking to teach its students "anger management" and "conflict resolution."

[illegible]



Guiao's squad expects tougher South stand today



SHAKEY'S V-LEAGUE

Peppery FEU trims Lyceum



Lascuña grabs 2-shot lead; Bayron rises to 2nd



C. Lhuillier serves up netfest tomorrow

Roach gives Manny dayoff, says he's ready for Hatton

A slice of basketball heaven

ONE GAME AT A TIME



Sev Sarmenta

2 champs defend WBO titles

Golf Show launches kids golf program

WORLD OF SPORTS

Supplements may have killed 21 polo horses

WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA—Twenty-one prized polo horses that died before one of the sport's top championships were given a supplement that likely caused their deaths, the leader of the Venezuelan-owned team told an Argentine newspaper. AP

Nadal opens Barcelona title defense with easy win

BARCELONA, SPAIN—RAFAEL Nadal began his bid for a fifth straight title at the Barcelona Open by beating Frederico Gil of Portugal, 6-2, 6-2, in the second round on Wednesday. AP

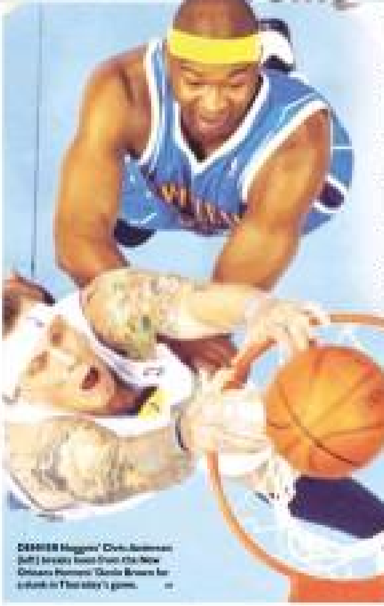
Forbes Magazine: MLB teams decline in value

AP

Manchester U nears title

AP

Magic, Heat level series; Nuggets up



DENVER Nuggets' Chris Andersen (left) [illegible] New Orleans Hornets' Devin Brown for a dunk in Thursday's game. AP

ORLANDO, FLORIDA—FOULED OUT and reduced to a spectator, Dwight Howard stood on the Orlando Magic sideline with one thought as he watched the Philadelphia 76ers mount another big lead.

"Man, I hope these boys don't come back again," Howard said.

They nearly did. ... AP

Bulls' Rose bags rookie of the year plum



ROSE: Dream award

NORTHBROOK, ILLINOIS—DERRICK Rose, who led his hometown Chicago Bulls to the playoffs and restored hope to a franchise in disarray, was named NBA rookie of the year on Wednesday. ... AP



One step backward, two steps forward

HEART, SOUL, SPORTS
Tommy Manotoc

THE BOLD AND HISTORIC MOVE by the National Golf Association of the Philippines to end its relationship with the Asian Tour is to be commended. ...

UP beach volley duo eyes revenge

PUERTO PRINCESA—UNIVERSITY OF THE Philippines' Rebecca Gail Moreno and new partner Amanda Chiclana are out to avenge their finals loss ...



PORSCHE PANACHE. This 1991 Porsche 964 RSR is one of the 20 or so vintage, restored and classic cars on display at the 2009 Trans Sport Show ...


COSCOLLUELA (left) with Lorien

Equestrian elects Coscolluela as president

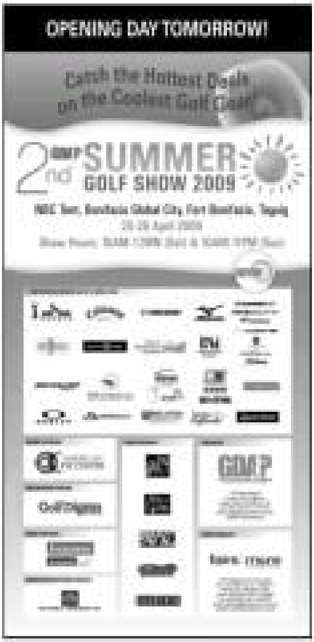
By Marc Anthony Reyes

NATIONAL PRISAA

Phelps-like show by NCR swim ace


FRIGILLANA

Tomacruz, Maralit safely thru



Nebato leads nat'l jr chess champs

SPORTS WATCH

Pasay 4-cocker kicks off today

5th SJC derby log April 25







SPORTS

Guiao's squad expects tougher South stand today / A21





Sena rescues Licealiz

Wizards thwart Energy Warriors

By Cedelf P. Tupas

JAMES SENA, THE 6-FOOT-6 CENTER from Jose Rizal University, stood tall for the undermanned Licealiz as the Holy Doctors downed the Pharex Bidang Generics, 87-78, yesterday in the 2009 PBL-PG Flex Daily Cup at the Ynares Sports Arena in Pasig City.

The Holy Doctors got off to a fine start but needed Sena's heroics to avert what could have been an embarrassing collapse at the close of the first round in the classification phase.

Sena came off the bench to hit 20 points and 10 rebounds and was a major force in repulsing Pharex's wild-wind comeback that saw the Bidang Generics nearly erase a 21-point deficit and move within 72-75 with 3:50 left in the game.

But Sena banged in six points in a 10-0 run to finally crush the Bidang Generics.

The win improved Licealiz's record to 2-2 while Pharex slipped to 1-3.

In the second game, Magnolia Pampaneros snapped out a two-game losing spell by beating Cebu Energy Drink, 69-67.

The Wizards squandered a 12-point lead but held on in the end to tie Licealiz for second.

The Energy Warriors had a chance to win the game after Magnolia's Neil Raneses uncharacteristically bungled two free throws with 8.5 ticks left but Marlon Cabahug missed a three-point shot as time expired.

"In all these, Sena is a versatile player and today he proved it, despite the absence of some of our key stars," Mauricio said of Sena.

Licealiz was handicapped by the absence of Chris Tiu and JV Casio who are in the United States with the RP development team. *With reports from Mark Vincent C. Gonzaga*



Aplus
METRO
Editor: Abelardo S. Ulanday

DID YOU KNOW

OCCUPANCY of hotels in Metro Manila decreased from 73.1 percent in 2007 to 69.8 percent in 2008.

11 vehicles damaged in road mishap

Tanker spills sticky cargo on Roxas Boulevard, causes heavy traffic

A TANKER CARRYING 19 TONS OF MOLASSES plowed into a center island on Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City yesterday morning, spilling its cargo on a seven meter-long portion of the road and causing heavy traffic in the area for several hours.

[illegible]

2 teenagers burn to death as car hits lamppost



DRESS REHEARSAL

QCPD installs cameras on busy streets

'Priest' nabbed for pawning fake land title to businesswoman

Car theft cases in Camanava up 39% in March, police stats show

Sharon's in-law finally gets to sit as Pasay councilor

MetroBriefs

Vendor convicted for cabbie's slay

Bloated corpse fished out of Manila Bay

Binay named recipient of Rotary award

Pretrial of suit vs cigarette firm called off

Obama to challenge US credit card titans

[illegible]

South Africa president in a fix: 2 wives, 1 first lady



[illegible]

Japan pays foreign workers to go home

[illegible]

US 17-year-olds to get easy access to morning-after pills

[illegible]

Executive at Freddie Mac is an apparent suicide

[illegible]

Merck will discount medicines that work

[illegible]

UK's sinking economy sparks political jousting

[illegible]

The WORLD



Rice gave go signal to torture suspect

WASHINGTON—AS NATIONAL SECURITY Adviser to former President George W. Bush, Condoleezza Rice verbally approved the CIA's request to subject alleged al-Qaida terrorist Abu Zubaydah to waterboarding in July 2002, the earliest known decision by a Bush administration official to OK use of the simulated drowning technique.



THEN NATIONAL Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice in a June 2001 photo.

AP



A CHINESE naval personnel stands guard on a battleship at Qingdao Port on April 23.

AFP

China parades its maritime might

AFP

Army bullets used in Sondhi attack

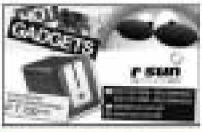
Reuters

Final showdown for Tamil Tiger chief



PRABHAKARAN

AFP



BUSINESS



Gov't borrowings up 130% in 1st quarter

2 RP economic pillars untouched by crisis

Authorities eye additional official development assistance

THE GOVERNMENT INCREASED ITS BORROWing from both domestic and foreign creditors by a total of 130 percent in the first quarter as it raised funds for stimulus spending.

INQUIRER MONITOR

Exports down (2005-2008, in US dollars)



BIR to mete out stiffer sanctions on tax delinquents

Currencies

Stock Market

Shares close lower

IN THIS ISSUE

- **Philamlife** profit up 186% /B2
- **Hog sector** faces collapse with free trade, group says /B5
- **P600M** for Cagayan Valley /B6

Update on tender offers

Corporate Securities Info

Raul J. Palabrica



[illegible]

Offer to buy

[illegible]

Resolution

[illegible]

Direct purchase

[illegible]

Philamlife profit up 186%

Investment income, forex gains boosted performance

By Doris C. Dumlao

[illegible]

Taipan brother out of list of nominees to Allied board

[illegible]

Citi consolidates RP operations

[illegible]

Philippine Stock Exchange

[illegible]

Currencies

[illegible]

LGUs urged to be more business-friendly

Key to RP competitiveness



PRULINK	PRU LIFE U.K.	
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[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Insular Life '08 net income reaches ₱2.1B

Anglo declares cash dividend

Philamlife ...



Business *Friday*

Simple way to save earth

Couple banks on green movement to sell shoes

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

MARKETING STRATEGY



NATHANIEL Sy, General Manager of Highstreet Distribution, the Philippine distributor of Simple shoes.

Quest



GUMSHOE in boat grey



Eureka

Double punch

Positioning—Question 2 conclusion



MARKETING Rx

Dr. Ned Roberto & Andy Roberto

The statement

Specify your target

Critical issue

Two statements

In Liliw, flip-flops rule



THERE ARE more than 70 footwear retailers in Liliw.





GOINGS-ON

CNBC expands distribution in RP through SkyCable

Seminar on soap, candle making set

Metrobank completes debt note offer

By Doris C. Dumlao

Hog sector faces collapse with free trade, group says

By Riza T. Olchondra

ECO-COMMUNITY

ALI completes first phase of Nuvali

By Amy R. Remo

Remembering the small farmer

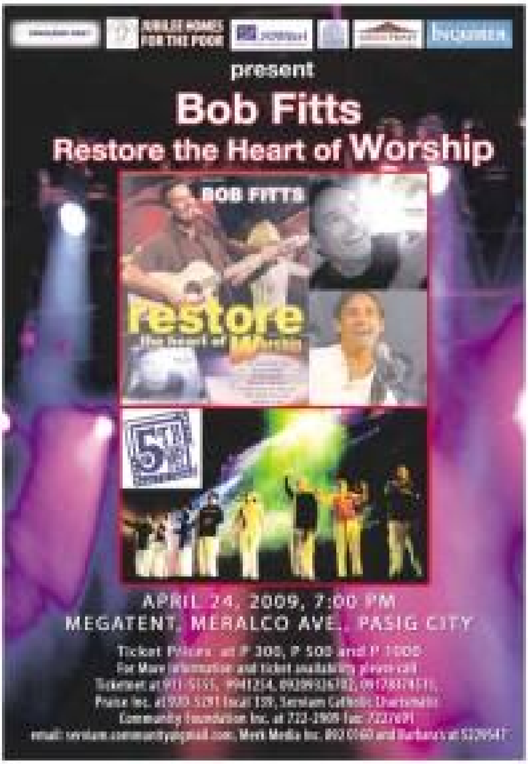
By Ernesto M. Ordoñez

COMMENTARY

Background

Correct emphasis

Future directions





'MAKABUHAYAN'

₱600M for Cagayan Valley

Private investment to fund facilities, projects

Gov't borrowings . . .

BIR to mete out . . .

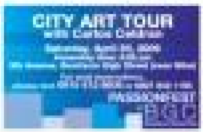
Shares close lower

2 RP economic . . .

LIFESTYLE Fashion & Beauty

Editor Thelma Sioson San Juan

Contributing Editors
Apples Aberin-Sadhwani
Jenni Epperson
and Rita Francisco-Prieto





Isaac Mizrahi for Liz Claiborne's debut collection young, color-sure



[illegible]

By Larry Leviste
Contributor

RUSTAN'S MAKATI FLAGSHIP store launched Liz Claiborne's summer collection designed by fashion iconoclast Isaac Mizrahi last week.

[illegible]



[illegible]







FRENCH maillot is black fits most body types. Fuchsia multipocketed tote to bring beachside. (left) Go for psychedelic flower power to match your tan in this micro mini tunic.

Fashion that's balanced but

By Larry Leviste
Contributor

LOOK AT THESE STUNNING YOUNG ladies who were dressed so cool to beat the humidity outside Rustan's Makati, where second floor showed the latest house brand's summer collection. The models were sweeping numbers like at the couture shows in Paris during the 1950s, and clients were readying their respective lists should they wish to see their chosen numbers after the show.

The Rustan's collection started with dowdy lengths and bare arms. Then there were mixing and "mismatching" pieces so that they could look like the latest fashion from Paris, New York and London. That didn't mean Recession Chic. Look for instance at the shoes the ladies wore: Fringed open-toed booties, flat gunmetal thongs and tropical printed bangles. Plus the "it" bags.

Over all, the fashion was balanced and lookable. It showed the magical ways Metro Manila women dress to express themselves amid the economic crisis.



ARABIAN NIGHT OUT. Mariel Quino lookup-cropped pants and top in burnt sienna with big belt.







IT'S OFFICIAL. Bea Lorca Dizonet and Bietter Chungo are a couple. Both wear summer staples as only stars like them can.

LEATHER AND DISTRESSED. Denim—the ultimate combination for fashion hotness. Bea Tantoco (left) Betchay Manzano wears sarong over slim silk pants. Organic jewelry keeps the look cool yet hot and sexy.

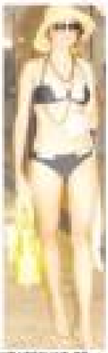
Bathing suits and perfect cover-ups

UNVEILED BEFORE A RECESSION-less audience at Rustan's Makati last week were the resort swimwear and cover-up ideas for poolside lunches or evening beach/lanai/bar shindigs.

For the daring to bare all, there were color clear bikinis, tankinis and one-piece maillots in the bandeau or bandini style to get that perfect tan.

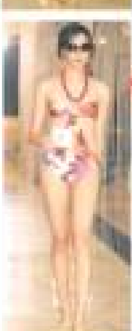
For cover-ups, there were mini smock dresses with Sabrina necklines or off-shoulder styles. There were colorful large floral printed kaftans as well as the stand-by sarong.

They were head-to-toe perfect with wide brimmed hats in straw or cotton, big sunglasses and espadrilles, thong sandals and big cotton totes with enough room for all beachside needs.



LOVE CRUZ NECKLINE. Off-shoulder transparent chiffon tops in geometric black and white polka dots, straw floppy hat and wooden horn necklace. (above) Optical illusion. Black and pink bikini with sarong make you look so daring.





TROPICAL PUNCH. This sexy printed one-piece will hide a tummy and highlight a small bust. Don't forget the bangles and the sunnies.



A CARDIGAN maillot, black and white, button-down and gardened. Red poplin hat keeps the sun at bay.



ISAAC MIZRAHI FOR LIZ CLAIBORNE. A button-down shirtdress in geometrics



JACKIE slim jeans with oversized pocket topped by long-sleeve polo and matching geometric bag



GRADUATED POLKA DOTS. Three-tiered polka-dot skirt with matching tank top by Liz Claiborne



AUDREY crop pants, polka-dot lowercut row under a 3/4 sport, double-breast jacket and statement necklace

Isaac Mizrahi for Liz . . .

From page C1

"It's called Colormath, which is just enough color with just enough math to create the perfect balance of brights with neutrals, geometric with florals, feminine details with masculine touches. Color is heroic in this new century," explained Mizrahi.

Indeed, Colormath can add up a bounty of Mizrahi reds, oranges and yellows, big florals to pair or mix with black and white dots, and stripes with matching bags and shoes for a head-to-toe look. Mizrahi says this formula can create countless outfits and looks when you add or subtract from the choices of this collection.

The must-own separates are shirtdresses, sweater sets and wide as well as skinny trousers in many colors. There are tailored boyfriend blazers and menswear jackets and enough color-sure blouses and tees to spice up your summer add-ons. There are necklaces, bangles, bags and shoes colored like a candy store.

These pieces are the new tools for surviving this summer's solstice. Every piece or outfit fits a girl in her '20s or a woman in her '60s. And do the math, it's that simple.



LIZ CLAIBORNE affordable it Bag shown with new jeans pockets designed by Isaac Mizrahi



SLIM shirtdress accessorized down by Isaac Mizrahi for Liz Claiborne.

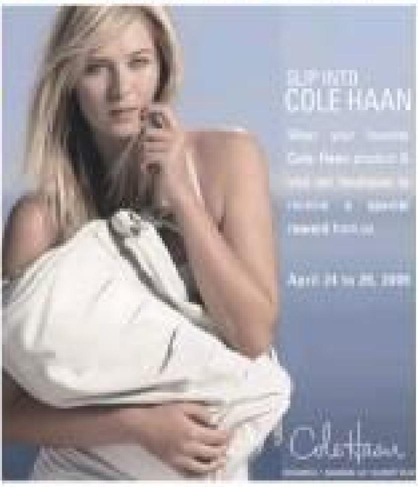
bankable



PUNK IS NEW AGAIN.

REAL GALS WEAR PLAID.





SM Supermalls

Nationwide Job Fair On May 1

The SM Supermalls will celebrate Labor Day, May 1 with a Nationwide Job Fair at its 33 malls around the country. SM Malls, after all, have been a catalyst in creating employment and business opportunities in all areas where they are located, and the Job Fair is one way in which it can do its share for the community.

Held in cooperation with the Department of Labor and Employment, the Public Employment Service Office, and local government units, the job fair aims to satisfy the Pinoy Working Force, and to help as many people as possible find employment.

With more than 800 companies participating, the event will encourage people to join the Proud Pinoy Workforce. Booths will be set up and staff from different companies will be ready to receive applicants and enlarge their work force. Among those participating are SM Companies like SM Supermarket, SM Hypermarket, SM Cinemas, SM Foodcourt, SM Leisure Center, Family Entertainment Center, and SM Investments.

This is the second Nationwide Job Fair that the SM Supermalls has organized. In last year's job fair, a total of 802 companies participated. A total of 20,817 registered, of which 15% were hired.





A total of 1,200 applicants were present at SM City Marilao

The SM Supermalls booth at SM City Cebu

457 job applicants were at SM City Baguio during the SM Job Fair last year



Thousands of applicants flocked at SM City Davao during last year's SM Job Fair





SM City Lucena line up of job applicants

Filinvest Run for a Child 2009

TOGETHER we made a difference.

The Filinvest Run for a Child 2009 was strongly supported by Filinvest employees, locators, clients and corporate friends. More than 1,000 participants gathered together to share their time and energy for an important cause – to give kids a better future through education.

On behalf of the participants, Filinvest Corporate City Foundation donated 3 million pesos to the Educational Research and Development Assistance (ERDA) Foundation. The funds will be used to provide books, school materials, uniforms, transportation and other miscellaneous expenses for ERDA scholars. Through this event, Filinvest reaffirmed its support for ERDA's vision of a nation where all children are given educational opportunities that will adequately prepare them for life.

Our gratitude to everyone who helped make our second charity run a success. We have proven once again that each of us can indeed make a difference.













FILINVEST CORPORATE CITY FOUNDATION, INC.



Awesome Barkada
WAKEBOARDING
Adventure!
Get ready as the SM Boys Teens' Wear Department gives thrill-seekers out there the opportunity of a lifetime. Twelve (12) lucky winners from Metro Manila, Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao together with 3 of their friends will be treated to an Awesome Barkada Wakeboarding Adventure at the Camsur Watersports Complex - the coolest wakeboarding destination here in the Philippines.
CWC
This awesome blow-out includes airfare, courtesy of Zest Air, Asia's most refreshing airline, airport transfer, 3 days and 2 night accommodations, breakfast for you and your entire crew, wakeboarding lessons and use of wakeboarding facilities.
ZestAir
So what are you waiting for? Hurry to your nearest SM Department Store and see if you've got what it takes to ride the waves of summer. Promo runs until May 3, 2009.
RIDE the WAVES OF SUMMER
Tees and Board shorts fit for the waves.
PORTO REBELDE
Win! Awesome Barkada Wakeboarding Adventure
For every P500 single or accumulated, same day purchase of tees and board shorts, sold exclusively at the SM Boys Teens' Wear Department, you and 3 of your friends can be among 12 lucky barkadas who will win
3days/2nights accommodations
at CWC
and airfare courtesy of ZestAir
Promo runs from April 1-May 3, 2009
mysummer mysm
We've got it all for you!
SM

LIFESTYLE Fashion & Beauty





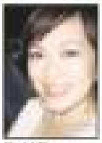
'This is what separates the men from the boys'

Natori describes the horror of Manhattan fashion retail today—and what it must do for 2010

Have a hair-free, carefree summer

BLUEWATER DAY SPA OPENS FIRST SPA THEATER





Mariel Chua,

Trim advantage

Wax on, wax off



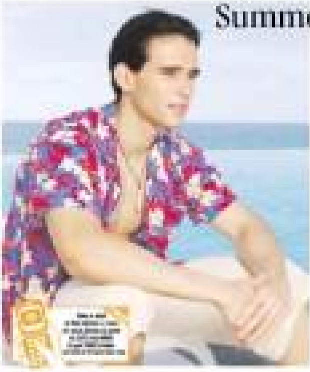


Warnings

Other ways to de-fuzz

'This is what separates . . .

Summer-fresh Hawaiian shirts











ADD a burst of color to summer wardrobe with this fabulous print cover-up.



ACCESSORIES in native materials work best with this beige-pink hooded piece.

'Men love them,' says designer Sabrina Artadi



THE MARRAKESH Collection is inspired by Middle Eastern couture.



THE DESIGNER wears her tunic over leggings.

Lounge luxewear with a touch of Morocco

By Irene C. Perez

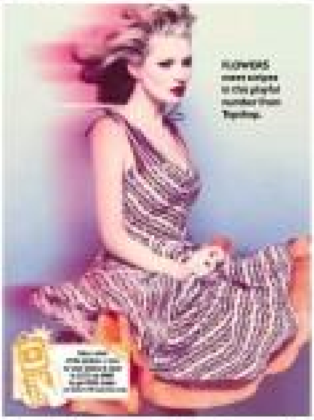
[illegible]

Moroccan-inspired

[illegible]

Low-maintenance

[illegible]





KATE takes on Woodstock bohemian dressing, with a one-shoulder playsuit, ombre fringe jacket.

Fashion collection inspired by Kate Moss



A PRETTY ... jacket. The Kate Moss S/S '09 collection includes folk-inspired embroidered jackets like this one with clashing floral prints.

'REUSED' ACCESSORIES



Free storytelling workshop

Pops at Eastwood

Festival queen search

Room package promo

Coronation of Gapan's patroness





Research shows water's impact on beauty



DR. JASMINE [illegible]

By Mel Cuevas
Contributor

AT A RECENT BEAUTY SYMposium in Kerala, India, top scientists explained the striking similarities between the macro ecosystem of our planet and the human body. "The circulation of water on earth essentially determines where we can live and thrive. Similarly, our whole physiology is constructed around water. Both the planet and our bodies need water in the right place at the right time and of the right quality," says Colin D'Silva, principal scientist at P&G Beauty.

And while it's common knowledge that our body needs eight glasses of water a day, huge advances have also been made in understanding water in relation to skin health. Take, for example, the Nobel Prize-winning discovery of Aquaporins, microchannels embedded in skin cell walls, which explains the importance of retaining and channeling water to maintain a healthy body. These scientific advancements in measuring and modeling water in the skin and hair are changing the fundamental understanding of water and its effects on our appearance.

Water and skin

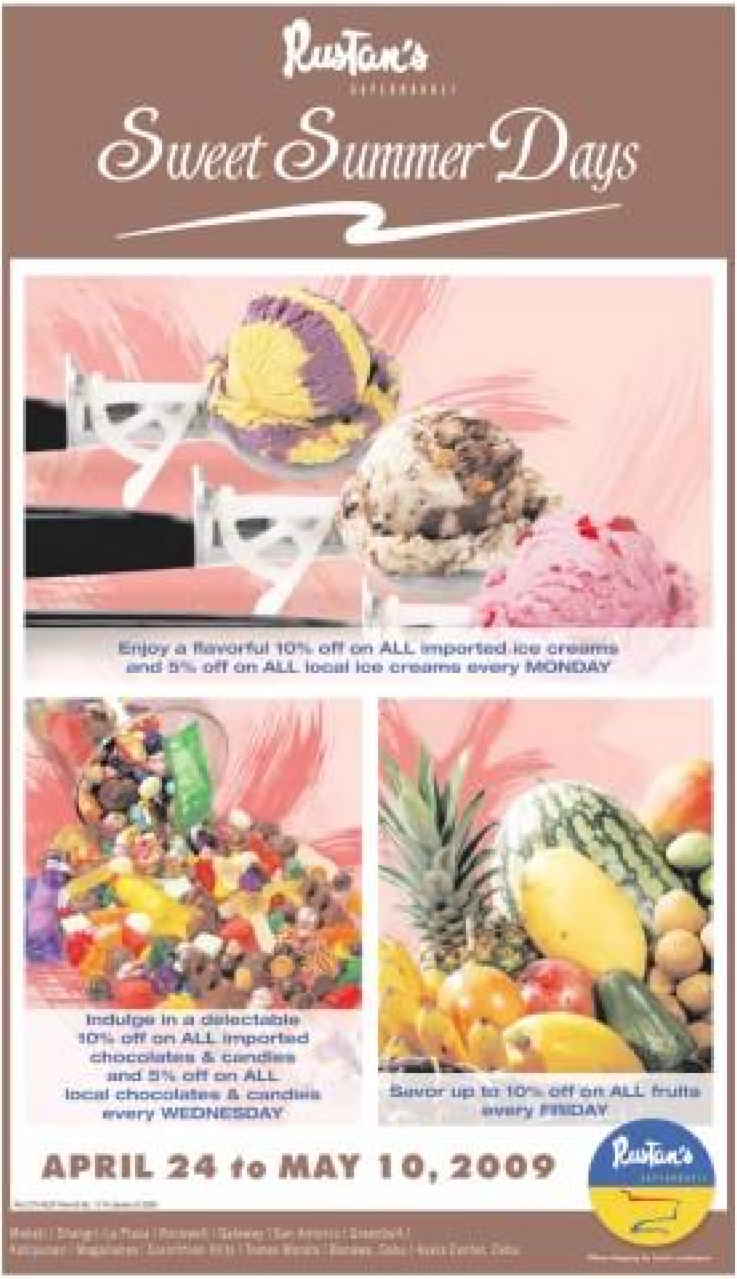
The skin's primary function is to act as an ultimate barrier for our body, keeping water and nutrients in and harmful substances out. We lose more water when it's cold and dry, for example, than in warm and humid weather. And as the dry weather draws water from our body and skin, we need to replenish it more than in a more humid environment.

The latest research by P&G scientists, with other collaborators, has led to the development of a new method that allows in-depth profiling of skin, in real-time and in vivo. "This means that we are now able to virtually look into the complex structure of the skin and determine how well it is hydrated at deeper levels as well as the surface," adds D'Silva.

Scientists concluded that in the long term, dry skin or general prolonged changes in the water balance of the skin accelerates the signs of aging. "Dehydration leads to more fundamental changes such as lack of firmness and suppleness, which, in turn, makes wrinkles more visible and the skin more saggy. Moisture is essential not only in the skin's top layers but also in the deeper layers for skin to function well and look good," says D'Silva.

The solution? Skincare products containing antioxidants including Vitamin B3, niacinamide, and hyaluronic acid (found in

RESEARCH [illegible]



DENIM DENIZENS



How do you make your 7FAM a style statement?

[illegible]: The jeans are like a perfect match to my hip... [illegible]



How many 7FAM jeans do you own?

[illegible]: "I have at least seven pairs, I think. They just fit me the best!"

What are your favorite items that you match with your 7FAMs?

[illegible]: I like wearing a crisp white shirt with my 7FAMs during the day and a nice flirty top with my 7FAMs at night.

What fashion items look best on you when you wear your 7FAMs?

[illegible]: I like pairing it with my "la ..." shirt which is the jersey of my favorite Argentine soccer club, which I am a huge fan of.







Why do you love your 7FAM?

[illegible]: They're comfortable and stylish at the same time.



Do you find women in 7FAM jeans sexy?

[illegible]: Yes I do because 7FAM jeans are pleasing to the eye and comfortable. And I think that when a girl is comfortable with what she's wearing, it's sexy.

What is your favorite 7FAM shade?

[illegible]: Depends on the occasion really. The vintage finish works well for casual looks while dark indigo looks great for evening or more dressed up styles.



What is about 7FAM is best for you?

[illegible]: "What I love about 7FAM is they are always changing and adapting. I like the fact that they are stylish, comfortable, durable and much attention is given to the details. [illegible]"



How many pairs of 7FAM are too much?

[illegible]: As long as I could use the jeans, you can not put a specific number to what comfort and style the 7FAM jeans could give.



What wouldn't you wear with your 7FAM?

[illegible]: I wouldn't wear it with long or loose tops since it will cover the nice details and [illegible] 7FAM pair of jeans.



On what occasions do you wear 7FAM jeans?

[illegible]: I love wearing 7FAM jeans in every occasion possible. The fit is so good on me that I don't have second thoughts of wearing them with either a simple top or an elegant shirt. They both go well with the jeans. Sometimes I even throw on a blazer for more formal occasions.



What is your favorite cut in 7FAM?

[illegible]: I like the boot cut! It is a flattering cut for my frame and it hugs my body in all the right places.



Do you consider your 7FAM workwear, leisure wear or weekend wear?

[illegible]: All of the above. My work allows me to be very casual. When I go out, I prefer to have jeans, a t-shirt and sneakers. If I wear jeans on weekends, it also has to be 7FAM, it fits perfectly and looks really cool.



What wash of 7FAM jeans is cooler and why?

[illegible]: The most faded pair of 7FAM that they have because it's just too hot!

Manila's style mavens join the 7FAM fever

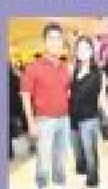
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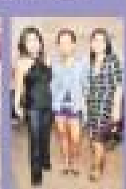
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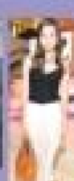
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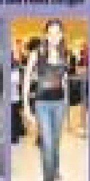
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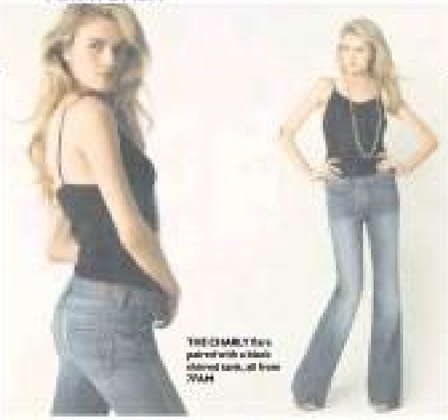


[illegible]

GUIDE TO YOUR PERFECT 7FAM

AVAILABLE IN A VARIETY OF SHAPES AND SIZES, RENOWNED DENIM BRAND 7FAM ensures each stylista receives his or her perfect pair, matched to individual moods and styles.

FOR WOMEN





A-POCKET BOOTCUT CHARLIZE DOJO FLYNT



LEXIE A-Pocket LEXIE Dojo ROXANNE STRAIGHT leg



FOR MEN





AUSTYN BOOTCUT FLYNT TRIPSTER STANDARD





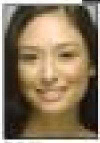
RELAXED ROCKER SLIMMY

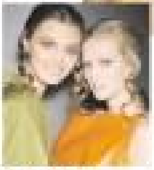




Hot summer hair ideas







BOTTEGA Veneta



PHILLIP Lim, back view

Soft nonstrida: Bottega Veneta

Side chignon: 3.1 Phillip Lim

Hair accessories: Dolce & Gabbana



DOLCE & Gabbana

Research shows . . .

Water and hair

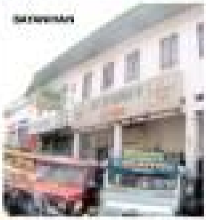


OLAY Total Effects



LIFESTYLE Fashion & Beauty

The A-Z of Baguio 'ukay' shopping



Key places to visit are Bayanihan, Diego Silang Building, Skyworld and Harrison

By John Ramirez
Contributor

THIS SUMMER, A BAGUIO trip is in order, not only because the city is the country's summer capital, but also because it is turning 100 years old this year.

And, if I may add, Baguio City has also become a fashion capital, thanks to the popularity of ukay shopping, which originated here.

The four key places to visit are Bayanihan, Diego Silang Building, Skyworld and Harrison. Here's an A-Z of what you need to remember:

A—**Arrive early.** Most shops open as early as 9 a.m. Early shoppers get the best choices and even good discounts. [illegible]

B—**Burnham Park.** The best starting point for ukay expeditions. Old buildings that have found a second lease on life as ukay sites surround the park named after Daniel Burnham, the same planner that designed Manila and Chicago, USA.

C—**Check the merchandise.** A good buy is something that will make you go the extra mile. Always check the stitching, leather and [illegible] quality. For shoes, the soles should not be [illegible] and worn, and should still be salvageable by your friendly shoe repairman.

D—**"Dendrus."** [illegible] When you spot branded merchandise you like, consult your [illegible] and a big bit [illegible].

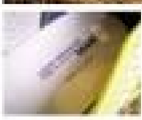
E—**Explore.** Ukay shopping is all about exploration. Some buildings have secret passageways or stairways that lead to other stores. Getting lost in ukay shopping is actually a boon. The more choices you have, the merrier the experience.

F—**Freeloading.** [illegible] to attract shoppers. But try going inside ukay stores. [illegible] as "it" brands could be buried somewhere.

G—**Get ready.** Bring water and handy wipes just in case you need them. Ukay shopping is not for the faint-hearted.

[illegible]





COMME des Garcons by Junya Watanabe shoes



AARON Rainey, Hazel Fernandez, Linda Legaspi and her husband Albert Reed



CHINO Monteverde with Chiteldo Lavinah, Betsy Westendorp, Mercedes Concepcion and Isabel Caro Wilson



MATT Puppes with Randy and Cecile Licupco and Lili Adina

Van Hagen brothers' art showcased in stunning exhibit



ANGELIQUE Boyagh and Nokia Philippines general manager William Hamilton-Whyte



MARGIE Moran Floirendo and Eling Montinola



JOEY Castro with David Bonifacio and Philip Ng



DR. RANDY Francisco and his wife, Tesha's Irene Mancerl, with Doc Zobel



FIRST couple of Peninsula Manila, dashing general manager Jonathan Crook with vivacious wife Beth Crook, and renowned couturier Pitoy Moreno

A HOT TICKET IN TOWN was the recent "Van Hagen & Van Hagen: Brothers in Art Part 2," a reprise of the highly successful 2007 exhibit by those talented brothers Alex and Han Van Hagen, dahlings. Held at the Peninsula Manila's The Peninsula Gallery, the exhibit showcased stunning, eye-catching photographs and exquisite copper etchings.

The event was presented by top sponsor Nokia, natch. Special guest of honor was the Dutch Ambassador to the Philippines, Robert Brinks, together with Nokia Philippines dynamic general manager William Hamilton-Whyte, The Peninsula Manila's and The Peng's vivacious Evelyn Lim Forbes and the hotel's new general manager, Jonathan Crook.

The elegant venue for this one-of-a-kind exhibit had sumptuous cocktails and flowing Champagne from Moet et Chandon and Ralph Wines, pahingas, for the invitees.

It was an elbow-to-elbow crowd with Cosmopolitan Manila's Who also included in attendance, from heavyweight businessmen to artists. "This is the biggest crowd I've ever attended for a photo and etching opening," said one guest.

Ayala's grand pillar and himself a top photographer, Jaime Zobel de Ayala, commented that "Alex has evolved tremendously, and his brother's copper etchings are exquisite."

Alex's photographs were mostly "green"—inspired by the environment, with leaves, bamboo stalks, greenery. There are, likewise, modernistic shots of some of New York's buildings and museums. Han's copper etchings, meanwhile, were inspired by images of Luang and Ngan, plus forests and old castles in the Netherlands and Europe, where he enjoys a reputation as one of the top 20 practitioners of his art, dahlings.

A highlight of the exhibit were photos of the La Mesa Watershed taken by the shy but observant Alex using the Nokia N95 and N82 mobile phones.

"Going around the city and taking photos using these phones was a joy!" said Alex. "Both mobile phones, which have a 5-megapixel camera with Carl Zeiss optics and flash, produced clear, vivid and high-quality images. They definitely brought out the beauty of the La Mesa Watershed."

Jaime Zobel de Ayala's comment: 'Alex has evolved tremendously, and his brother's copper etchings are exquisite'

Part of the exhibit's proceeds will benefit the Real Life Foundation, an advocacy organization dedicated to serving the poor and improving their lives through educational assistance, leadership development and community service, pahingas.

It was definitely one fab exhibit which our town's art lovers are still talking about.

Dinner for Zambia ambassador

The non-resident Ambassador of the Republic of Zambia to the Philippines, Godfrey Simasiku, and his wife Sibeso, were recently honored at an elegant dinner reception by that popular couple, businessman and Zambia honorary consul Luis Abbas Jr. and his stylish wife, Guatemala honorary consul Amelia R. Abbas, at their Makati mansion.

Nonetheless, the chic diplomatic and consular set came in full force, including Chrisna Venter of the Republic of South Africa, Ambassador Liliane Marie Koo of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, Consul General Hidetoshi Sakakibara of Japan, dahlings.

Talented chef of choice Jessie Sincioco of Le Souffle Rockwell prepared an excellent dinner of Sweet Pork Salad in orange Tahini dressing with crispy poppadum, followed by Cream of Asparagus Soup with toasted almond flakes; Passion Fruit Sorbet; and the main course, Medallions of Ostrich Tenderloin in sun dried tomato sauce, or Pan Fried Lemon Sole Fillet in Grenobloise sauce, gratin potatoes and sautéed French beans. Dessert was the calorific Flambéed Mango a la Mode. Yummy!

Leave it to the Abbases, dahlings, to entertain the best with the best!



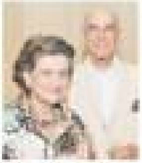
WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

Maurice Arcache

Photos by Alex Van Hagen using YES Photo Solutions



THE STARS of the night, "Brothers in Art 2" stage photographer Alex Van Hagen and internationally renowned copper etching artist Han Van Hagen with guest of honor Dutch Ambassador Robert Brinks (center)



BEA AND Jaime Zobel de Ayala



EVELYN Forbes with Alfonso Montealbano, Betsy Westendorp and Precious Aguinaldo-Juarez



PEACHY and Rudy Mazaraid with Jaime and his sister Andrea Zobel



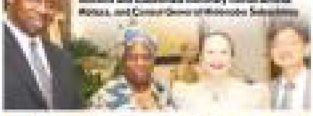
LIBETH Co-Unjieng and husband, business magnate Bobby Yinzo



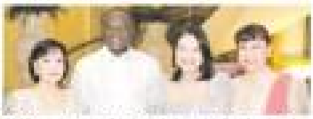
EGG FUENTES with Richard Tin, Pinky Tobiano and Joaquin Comsam



ESCADA'S Alo and husband Jaimito Koo of French Baker



FIRST Secretary Sylvester Mundanda with honorees Sibeso Simasiku, hostess with the mostest and Guatemala honorary consul Amelia Abbas, and Consul General Hidetoshi Sakakibara



TOTO honorary consul Bitty Castro, Ambassador of the Republic of Nigeria Makinde Amodu, Angola honorary consul Helen Ong, and daughter of the hosts Czarina Abbas Sygala



TESSA Jazmines Abbas



REPUBLIC of South Africa Ambassador Pieter Vermeulen listening to the farewell and thank-you speech of the honoree, non-resident Ambassador of the Republic of Zambia Godfrey Simasiku, along with host and consul Ambassador Luis Abbas Jr and Consul General of Côte d'Ivoire Vikas Carter





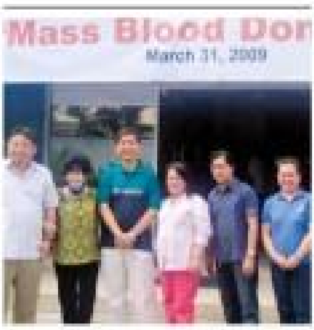


BRAND-NEW Allen Edmonds loafers, with sparkling clean soles (above).



EAST Park

The A-Z of Baguio 'ukay' shopping



BLOOD DONATION PROGRAM

How to get even-toned, matte complexion

MAKEOVER 911



Nude makeup



REVLON Beyond Natural Protective Lipstick SPF 15

Mattifying foundation



L'ORÉAL White Perfect Pearl SPF 15

Cosmetics best for Asian skin

Vanity Basket



Summer scent



Lip and cheek tint



Green tea fragrance

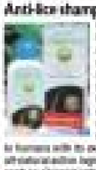
Durable nail polish





8-hour cream collection

Anti-lice shampoo





Lipstick with sunscreen

ENTERTAINMENT

Hunger strike for Darfur

Do You Know...



Another Pinoy first

Raya Martin's 'Independencia' is in the prestigious Cannes Film Festival's Un Certain Regard



ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD



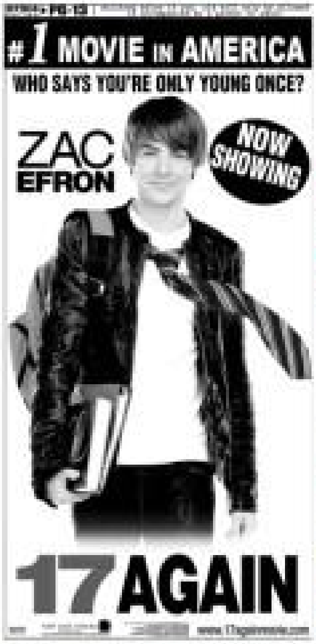
Ruben V. Nepales

Bold decision

Three days



FREE CONCERT







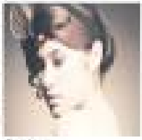




Another Pinoy first

> Raya wrote the script for his Cannes film in three days with little sleep; he went out only to eat

Musical auditions

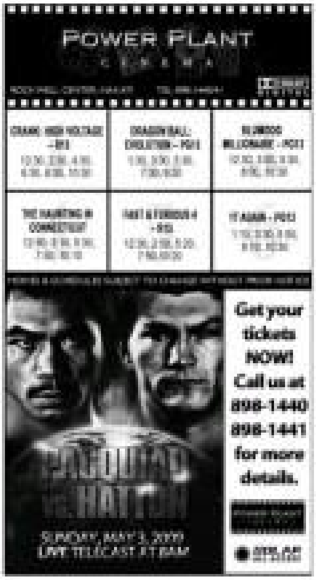


ISABELLA













Tribeca Film Fest amid turbulent times

> NY event has shrunk to 85 films, down from a high of 157 two years ago

Musical chairs

Popular fare



LONG work hours in Marikina initially "shocked" Jeanne Lapoirie, but she quickly adjusted, says her director.

French eye for RP film

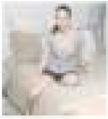
Acclaimed director of photography shot Raya Martin's new movie in Cannes

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

LIVING Stars
Editor: Ernesto G. Velarde

FAVORITE NOOKS

CHESCA GARCIA



MY BED IS THE SOFTEST IN THE WORLD. I have lots of pillows that are also very soft... especially with the air-conditioning on. When I get home, the first thing I do is lie down here, watch TV or read a book. Oh, of course I change into my clean clothes first. *Marinel R. Cruz*



BOOKS

SNOOKY SERNA

WHENEVER I'M AT POWERBOOKS and Fully Booked, I can't help it; I keep buying all sorts of books. I have a huge collection: from Neil Gaiman's Goth comic books to self-help titles.

A current favorite is "The Power of Now: A Guide to Spiritual Enlightenment," by Eckhart Tolle, which was recommended by Oprah Winfrey in O magazine. His story is inspiring. He completely detached himself from materialism and became a homeless person. This book made me realize a lot of things. It enlightened me about life's true blessings.

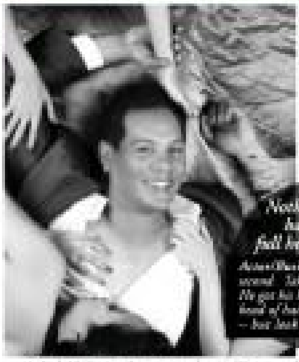
Bayani San Diego Jr.



OUT OF THE CLOSET

Carmina in the summer

It must be the hair



Nothing beats having a full head of hair.

Actor/Businessman Joey Marquez savors every second. Takes life's pleasures to its peak. His secret: He got his hair back. "Nothing beats having a full head of hair. I lost it way when I was going bald – but look at me now. I couldn't ask for more."

Indeed, life for Joey keeps getting better. "Way much better than when he was the butt of jokes, being called 'kalbo' or 'boregbor' and felt less desirable to women because of baldness. "Those were 15 rough years of my life. At first I just played the jokes to my advantage because I am a comedian. But deep inside I was really desperate to get my hair back. I looked at myself in the mirror, thinking if only I could get my hair back," he recalls.

Having less self-confidence, looking much older, with waning virility and vigor. These are just some of the proven baldness impacts and Joey was no exemption. "Whenever I approached women, most of them usually laughed at me. I should do something about my hair also. Of course, I didn't experience that before. I also felt self-conscious in front of the camera. And I was always mindful that people would just remember me because of my bald spot," he says.

Joey decided to look for solutions. "I've tried almost all of the remedies. But I just got promises, not results. ... I was desperate for baldness solutions and ended up disappointed. But when a friend suggested getting professional treatments at Svenson, I said sige why not. I thought experts can do something ... True enough, in just a few courses of Svenson's treatments, a miracle happened! I got my full head of hair back. No more bald spot. Galing!"

There's no more turning back for Joey. He's living life much better now. "My confidence is back. I'm definitely back. My career, sports, traveling—everything. Women now smile at me and say, 'You look like you're not getting older.' I could easily strike a conversation and pull my suave moves. I have the best time of my life. It must be the hair!"

GARFIELD
By Jim Davis



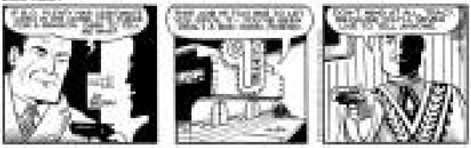
ALIPIN



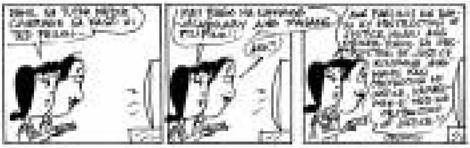
PUGAD BABOY



DICK TRACY



LOVESHOTS



JAMES BOND



DIVINE COMEDY



BABY BLUES
By Jerry Scott



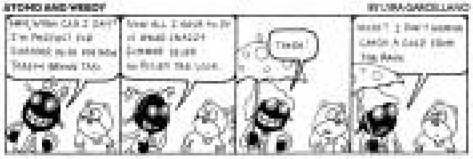
TULDOK



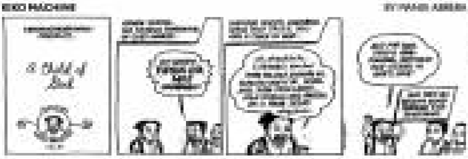
BEN
By Daniel Shelton



ATOMO AND WEBBY

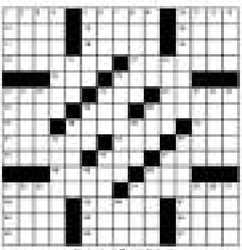


KIKO MACHINE

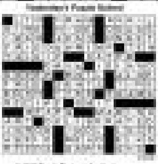


HOROSCOPE

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved



CONCEPTIS SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

3								5
			6		5			
		4	3		1	7		
	2	6				9	4	
				5				
	4	9				5	7	
		5	4		3	2		
			2		7			
9								8

Difficulty Level ★★★★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Answer to previous puzzle

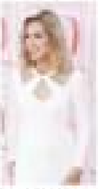
6	4	3	2	5	8	7	9	1
5	2	8	9	7	1	4	3	6
1	9	7	3	6	4	2	5	8
2	8	5	6	9	7	3	1	4
3	6	4	5	1	2	8	7	9
9	7	1	4	8	3	6	2	5
7	1	6	8	2	9	5	4	3
8	3	9	7	4	6	1	8	2
4	5	2	1	3	6	9	8	7

Red Carpet

TV Land Awards, LA, April 19



ALEX Kingston



DONNA Mills



LISA Harrison



TERI Hatcher


CANVAS bag from Lacoste


SHE'S crazy about her Tom Ford, Rudy Project and Kenneth Cole shades.


"SUPER comfy" Tory Burch flip-flops and [illegible] shoes: "Like walking on carpets."


THE BEACH lover says protecting skin from the sun's rays is important.

Carmina in the summer

By Marinel R. Cruz
Photos by [illegible]

CARMINA VILLAROEL considers summer the most exciting time of year.

The actress/TV host, along with the production team of QTV 11's magazine show "Day Off," recently flew to Boracay Island in Aklan to shoot an episode of their month-long summer special to be aired this May. Mina, with co-host Mike "Mikki" [illegible], are also scheduled to visit other popular summer destinations.

"I love going to the beach. It's the best place to spend quality time with Zoren (Legaspi) and the kids (their twins, Mavy and Cassy)," Mina told Living Stars during our visit to the "Day Off" set at [illegible] Gardens in Quezon City. "But to work under the sun for long hours is really tough. I really have to prepare for that."

The TV host added: "I perspire easily, so I wear clothes made of light fabrics. I make sure not to leave home without putting on sunblock lotion. I also bring enough drinking water with me wherever I go." Read on for more of Mina's must-haves this season.



Dresses

I love Freeway [illegible] dresses because the material they use is very light.

I got this super comfy maxi dress (by designer [illegible]) from The Podium. There's a cluster of stores by local designers there.

If you plan to buy dresses and you're not tall, go for the knee-length type. Dresses with really low necklines should be worn with a tube blouse under it, especially if you plan to wear it on a day when you're with the kids on the beach.

Shorts

My all-time favorite pair of denim shorts (from Guess) has been with me for over five years now. It's the perfect fit, and perfect for the beach. You can wear them while walking on the shore, by the pool side, or while having dinner.

Cosmetics

Sunblock is super important. I prefer Paula's Choice because I have oily skin. Golli (de Belen, her "Sis" co-host) told me about this brand.

Facial spray and hand gels are must-haves, too, during summer. I'm a sucker for hand gels. I carry at least four kinds with me to work.

Also, I always carry [illegible], mosquito repellent. My sister-in-law [illegible], together with a group of friends, market this brand here. I like the one made for kids because of its powdery scent.

I use Chanel and Nivea lip care for chapped lips. But I apply Blistex with SPF 15 when I need to work under the sun for long hours.

Scents

I use colognes from Bath and Body Works like Mango Mandarin and Citrus Basil. They're very refreshing. I also like Issey [illegible]. My all-time favorite is "[illegible]." I've been using this since I was in high school. For nights out, I use Jo Malone, Gucci or Mont Blanc.

Eyewear

I'm lucky that [illegible] provides most of my sunglasses. The pink pair is memorable because I wore it the whole time I was vacationing in the United States with my family two years ago. My Tom Ford pair is a hit. People always notice when I'm wearing it. I also like my Kenneth Cole and Rudy Project pieces because they're very classy.

Books

"Lovely Bones" by Alice Sebold is memorable. Golli, Anne (Curtis) and I read it together. Mitch Albom's "The Five People You Meet in Heaven" reminds you of the people who made a big impact on your life. Nicholas Sparks' "The Wedding" is very romantic. It says that married couples should always work on preserving their relationship.

Bags

This two-year-old Louis Vuitton pouch is a favorite. The fabric is so soft. It's not your typical cosmetics bag.

The Ralph Lauren beach bag is a gift from Zoren.

I've had this multicolored bayong for a while now. I use this for out-of-town shoots instead of branded bags. It's [illegible].

I got this Lacoste canvas bag from the United States. I didn't even know it was a Lacoste. I bought it because I liked the color combination—pink, red, orange and white.

The Prada bag is one of my favorites because it's big enough to hold all of my stuff.

Gadgets

My iPod, MacBook, camera (Canon Digital Ixus 75) and HTC mobile phone are all gifts from Zoren. He's a techie. He also gave me a really bright flashlight. He said I should have one in my bag all the time.

Footwear

My pair of dark brown Tory Burch leather flip-flops are my favorite. They're super comfy. I also have them in green. I recently bought a few pieces from [illegible]. They're also very comfortable, like you're walking on a carpeted floor.

Accessories

I've been using charms and crystals since I was young. I was born in the Year of the Rabbit so for this year, I have to wear a [illegible], five lucky coins and an infinity coin which are supposed to protect me from cheaters and people involved in scams.

The gold bracelet I'm wearing is a gift from Zoren for my birthday last year. Engraved on it are the words "Love, Tatay" and "Proverbs 19:14."

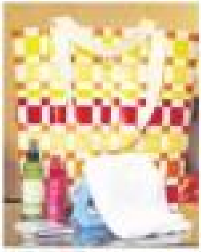
The watch is memorable. It's the first watch I bought for myself. It's a Cartier Santos. They don't make this anymore.

Water bottles

The red water bottle is another gift from Zoren. It keeps water hot all day. I'm a big coffee drinker so I recently bought a Bubba Keg from actress [illegible]. When I was still doing "Mga Mata ni Anghelita," I'd bring it all the way to Pampanga and the coffee would still taste good. Christine Jacob, who used to co-host "Sis," gave me a water container. She said it's equivalent to eight glasses a day.

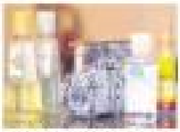
"Day Off," 2008 Silver Screen Awardee for Best Entertainment Program at the US International Film and Video Festival, has a new time slot, 9:30 p.m., every Saturday.

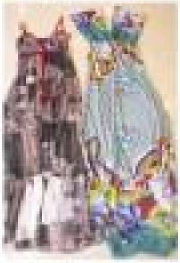

RALPH Lauren beach bag, coffee bottle from Zoren


MULTI-COLORED bayong better than branded bags for sun-drenched shoots, Mina says. She also prefers [illegible].


SHORTS that she finds perfect for frolicking on the beach.


CARTIER Santos watch, the first expensive item Mina bought for herself. Gold bracelet is a birthday gift from Zoren last year.


HER fave LV pouch and hand gels


DRESSES made of light fabrics


GADGET gifts from Zoren, the hubby


FRUITY scents cool for the summer


BUBBA Keg for the coffee addict

Bazaar features auction of stars' outfits

CELEBRITY MOM TINTIN Bersola-Babao and her Mommy Cheng will hold a celebrity and charity bazaar, "The Closet [illegible] Summer Bazaar" from today till April 26, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., at the World Trade Center.

Highlight of the bazaar is a celebrity auction to be conducted every hour, featuring personal items donated by stars like Piolo Pascual, Gary V, Jericho Rosales, Charice Pempengco, Gab Valenciano, [illegible] and [illegible].

During the event, there will also be performances by Jed Madela, Sheryn Regis, [illegible] and Pinoy Dream Academy scholars Yeng Constantino, Bugoy and Laarni.

Free seminars on health, wealth and wellness will be conducted, with attendance on a first come-first served basis. Registration is from 10 to 11 a.m.

Part of the ticket sale proceeds will go to the scholars of [illegible], DZMM [illegible] medical projects, Shepherd Of The Hills Orphanage and Shining Light Foundation.

Prizes will be raffled off every hour. Other attractions are a bubble show, a bird and reptile show, a magician show, family indoor rock climbing and swimsuit fashion show for teens.


CLAUDINE Barretto's pink dress


PIOLO Pascual and Tintin Bersola-Babao




JERICHO Rosales' shirt and CD


CHARICE Pempengco's top


GARY V's concert jacket